

MEDICAL FINANCIAL RECORDS AMENDMENTS

2010 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Bradley G. Last

Senate Sponsor: Daniel R. Liljenquist

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Utah Health Code to allow hospitals to obtain financial information of a patient from a bank or other financial institution when assisting with Medicaid eligibility of a patient.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires a bank to release financial records to a hospital when determining whether a patient qualifies for Medicaid; and
- specifies the information the bank shall receive before releasing financial records.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2010.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

26-18-3.2, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **26-18-3.2** is enacted to read:

26-18-3.2. Release of financial information.

(1) (a) Upon request from a hospital, or a designated agent of a hospital, a bank or other financial institution shall provide the hospital, or the designated agent of the hospital,

financial records of a patient upon the receipt of a notarized document that includes the following patient information:

(i) name;

(ii) address;

(iii) Social Security number; and

(iv) patient permission to release the information required by this Subsection (1) to the bank or financial institution.

(b) The document required by this Subsection (1) shall be signed by the patient and acknowledged by a notary public.

(2) A hospital, or a designated agent of the hospital, may only request the information required under Subsection (1), if the hospital or the agent of the hospital:

(a) determines that the patient has no ability to pay; and

(b) has received adequate documentation from the patient, such as a valid driver license or passport, to verify the identity of the patient.

Section 2. Effective date.

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2010.